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Immigrants for San Francisco and Honolulu recommended for rejection.

November 9, 1903, steamship *Hongkong Maru*: For San Francisco, 1; for Honolulu, 13.

On steamship *Riojun Maru* for Seattle, recommended for rejection November 4, 1903, 2.

Immigrants for Manila recommended for rejection.

Sanitary Inspector Bowie reports from Nagasaki as follows: October 30, Japanese for Manila, 75.

MAURITIUS.

Report from Port Louis—Plague and surra.

Consul Campbell reports, October 14, as follows:

Since my last communication upon the subject of the existence of bubonic plague and surra in Mauritius, I have now to report that after a few short months' cessation (during the period that surra was raging here) the colony appeared to be free from plague, but within the past two months it has again broken out and is more violent in its destructive progress and more rapid in its deadly influence among the human population than was surra among cattle, though this disease has within the past year carried off more than half the beasts of burden of the colony.

Since last August the mortality from plague and malaria has exceeded any previous death records of the colony.

Hitherto, the spread of the plague has been generally attributed to the existence of the billions of rats that infest the island. These rodents are again found dying and dead in great numbers in every section of Port Louis, and in a somewhat lesser degree throughout the whole island, and what is still more surprising in the present epidemic is that the cats and dogs of the place are now attacked to an alarming extent with this frightful malady, and on account of their domestic habits give greater cause of alarm than all the rats on the island.

The sanitary department, although very largely increased within the past few months and spending much money, seems to be totally unable to cope with the continuous spread and propagation of this frightful scourge.

To make things worse, within the past ten days nearly 600 contract coolies arrived from India to work on the sugar plantations, bringing with them smallpox. It was known already that several cases of smallpox existed in the colony, but were confined to certain districts, so that these coolies, men and women, were immediately placed in quarantine. As to the army, there are at the present time nearly 5,000 soldiers in the colony. Half this number are British soldiers sent here from the Transvaal at the end of the war; the other half are Asiatics.

Should the plague or smallpox ever reach these camps it can hardly be imagined what direful consequences might be the result.